

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A system for identifying a lost or stolen device, comprising:
 - a transmitter, coupled to the device, for transmitting identification information;
 - a receiver which receives the identification information transmitted by the transmitter, when the transmitter is within a defined distance from the receiver; and
 - a computer, coupled to the receiver so as to receive the information from the receiver, said computer having a first secure database which stores data associated with lost or stolen devices and which prevents unauthorized access to the data stored therein, wherein said computer compares the information with the stored data, and generates an alarm if the information matches at least some of the stored data.